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SEP 15 2009

Serial No. 10/577,769  
Docket No. 04USFP1024-K.M.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Yoichi KATAYAMA

Serial No.: 10/577,769                      Group Art Unit: 2624  
Filed: April 28, 2006                      Examiner: Jose L. Couso  
For: IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS AND IMAGE DECODING METHOD

Mail Stop AF  
Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated July 15, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. No new matter has been added.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.